

**Amendments to the Claims:**

Please amend the claims as indicated.

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for verifying an interface address, the apparatus comprising:

a communication module in electrical communication with a network, the communication module configured with an interface address, wherein the interface address is an Ethernet media access controller address and the communication module is an Ethernet network interface card, the communication module further configured to communicate the interface address in response to a query; and

a logic module in electrical communication with the communication module, the logic module configured to query the communication module, and to receive the interface address from the communication module, the logic module further configured to determine whether the interface address is invalid, and to mitigate an invalid interface address by deactivating the network.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the interface address is determined to be invalid if the interface address is outside of a specified interface address range.

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the interface address is determined to be invalid if the interface address is a specified error value.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the interface address is determined to be invalid if the interface address is received after a specified time interval.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) An interface device, the device comprising:

an interface communication module in electrical communication with a network, the interface communication module configured with an interface address, wherein the interface address is an Ethernet media access controller address and the interface device is an Ethernet network interface card, the interface communication module also configured to receive a query and to communicate the interface address responsive to the query, the interface communication module further configured to receive a termination command; and

an interface logic module configured to terminate communications between the interface communication module and the network responsive to the termination command.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A system for verifying an interface address, the system comprising:

a network;

an interface device in electrical communication with the network, the interface device configured with an interface address, wherein the interface address is an Ethernet media access controller address and the interface device is an Ethernet network interface card, the interface device further and configured to receive a query and to communicate the interface address responsive to the query; and

a verification device in electrical communication with the network, the verification device configured to communicate the query to the interface device and to receive the interface address from the interface device, the verification device further configured to determine whether the interface address is invalid and to mitigate the invalid interface address by deactivating the network.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the interface address is determined to be invalid if the interface address is outside of a specified interface address range.

13. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the interface address is determined to be invalid if the interface address is a specified error value.

14. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the interface address is determined to be invalid if the interface address is equivalent to a second interface address.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium comprising computer readable code for verifying an interface address, the computer readable code configured to:

query an interface address, wherein the interface address is an Ethernet

media access controller address of an Ethernet network interface card;

receive the interface address;

determine whether an interface address is invalid; and

mitigate the invalid interface address by deactivating the network.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Original) The computer readable storage medium of claim 16, wherein the computer readable code is configured to determine that the interface address as invalid if the interface address is outside of a specified range.

21. (Original) The computer readable storage medium of claim 16, wherein the computer readable code is configured to determine that the interface address is invalid if the interface address is equivalent to a second interface address.

22. (Original) The computer readable storage medium of claim 16, wherein the computer readable code is configured to determine that the interface address is invalid if the interface address is a specified error value.

23. (Original) The computer readable storage medium of claim 16, wherein the computer readable code is configured to determine that the interface address is invalid if the interface address is received subsequent to a specified time interval.

24. (Currently Amended) A method for verifying an interface address, the method comprising:

querying an interface address, wherein the interface address is an Ethernet media access controller address of an Ethernet network interface card;  
receiving the interface address;  
determining that an interface address is invalid; and  
mitigating the invalid interface address by deactivating the network.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Canceled)

27. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the interface address is determined to be invalid if the interface address is outside of a specified interface address range.

28. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the interface address is determined to be invalid if the interface address is a specified error value.

29. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the interface address is determined to be invalid if the interface address is equivalent to a second interface address.

30. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for verifying an interface address, the apparatus comprising:

means for querying an interface address, wherein the interface address is an Ethernet media access controller address of an Ethernet network interface card;  
means for receiving the interface address;  
means for determining that an interface address is invalid; and  
means for mitigating the invalid interface address by deactivating the network.